

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3538
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2017
Funding for Inland Waterways Projects
Ashok Kumar Shri K.

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a sum of Rs.80,000 crore is required for development of 20,000 km inland waterways projects in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the manner in which the requisite funds are proposed to be arranged by the Government and the extent to which these objectives have been achieved;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to arrange a sum of Rs.50,000 crore as loans from foreign institutions at 2.75 per cent interest as against 12 per cent from Indian Banks for the said projects; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a)&(b):111 inland waterways with an approximate length of 20,275 km have been declared as National Waterways (NWs) under the National Waterways Act, 2016. The requirement of funds would be known after the feasibility studies of these waterways is completed. Development of viable National Waterways is being undertaken through Government Budgetary Support, multilateral assistance and raising of external budgetary resources.

A project for capacity augmentation of NW-1 (Ganga), viz., Jal Marg Vikas at a cost of Rs. 5369 crore is being implemented on NW-1 with the technical and financial support of World Bank. The loan negotiations for this purpose have been concluded and signed. To develop the NWs, Rs. 340 crore has been raised by IWAI through Government of India fully serviced bonds during 2016-17.

(c)&(d):No, Madam.
